



STATE OF NEVADA
BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In the Matter of the Request for Opinion
Concerning the Conduct of **JOHN RUSSUM**,
Trustee, Humboldt General Hospital District,
Humboldt County, State of Nevada,
Subject.

**Request for
Opinion No. 09-24C**

PANEL DETERMINATION
NRS 281A.440(3)

Facts and Jurisdiction

An Ethics Complaint was filed against John Russum (Russum) alleging violations of NRS 281A (Ethics in Government Law), specifically NRS 281A.420(2) and (4), when he failed to disclose and/or abstain from voting on matters in which he had a pecuniary interest, as described more fully below in the Panel Proceedings.

At the time of the alleged conduct, Russum was a Trustee for the Humboldt General Hospital District (HGH), a public officer as defined in NRS 281A.160. Therefore, the Nevada Commission on Ethics (Commission) has jurisdiction in this matter.

Panel Proceeding

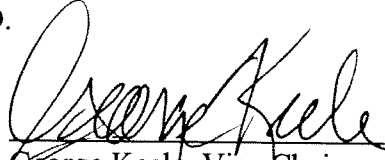
On May 27, 2009, pursuant to NRS 281A.440(3), a Panel consisting of Commissioners George Keele and Paul Lamboley reviewed the following: Ethics Complaint; Russum's response to the Complaint; Investigator's Report; Executive Director's Recommendation and the evidence collected by Commission staff.

The following are the Panel's unanimous conclusions:


Just and sufficient cause does not exist for the Commission to hold a hearing and render an opinion on whether Russum violated NRS 281A.420(2) and/or (4) on February 24, 2009, when he voted to approve payment of the salaries of the HGH Board of Trustees, including his own.

The Request for Opinion is, therefore, DISMISSED.

Dated: May 29, 2009


George Keele, Vice Chairman
Panel Member

Dated: 06.02.09


Paul Lamboley, Commissioner
Panel Member

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that I am an employee of the Nevada Commission on Ethics and that on this day in Carson City, Nevada, I placed a true and correct copy of the **PANEL DETERMINATION IN REQUEST FOR OPINION 09-24C** in an envelope and caused same to be delivered via Certified U.S. Mail through the State of Nevada Mailroom to Russum's counsel and regular U.S. Mail through the State of Nevada Mailroom to the complainant addressed as follows:

O. Kent Maher
Attorney at Law
33 West Fourth Street
P.O. Box 130
Winnemucca NV 89446

Cert. No. 7002 2030 0005 8442 3914

Allen Violette, Complainant
4135 Autumn Hills Dr.
Winnemucca, NV 89445

DATED:

06/02/09

Michelle A Ene
An employee, Nevada Commission on Ethics